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schools? Has it been lifted this year and if so will private managements be given permission to open schools which will follow the rules and regulations as adumbrated by the Department?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Not yet. There is no question of ban as such. They can open schools only with the permission of the Government. The whole position will be reviewed and the revised programme will come into effect from the next academic year.

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : May I know how many of these new schools opened are basic schools? Have the Government got any scheme for converting the schools into basic schools in future?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : These are all ordinary schools. We do have a programme for conversion of ordinary schools into basic schools. I would refer the hon. Member to my Budget speech and to the Budget proposals.

Filter-point wells

* 836 *Q.*—SRI R. SRINIVASA IYER (on behalf of SRI V. SANKARAN) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many filter points have been put down along the banks of river Vaigai ; and

(*b*) how many acres of land have been benefited thereby?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) 182 units.

(*b*) 1,820 acres.

Elementary school for Keeranur

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member Sri V. Arunachala Thevar is not in his place. Question No. 837, and the answer will be printed in the official proceedings.

* 837 *Q.*—SRI V. ARUNACHALA THEVAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the local priest residing at Nanjore in Kulathure taluk, Tiruchirappalli district applied for permission two years ago to start an elementary school at Keeranur:

(*b*) whether the Tiruchirappalli District Board recommended it ; and

(*c*) the reason for not granting him permission by the Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) No, Sir.

(*c*) The area in question was already provided with a school.